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URUGUAY, BRAZIL CONDUCT JOINT NAVAL MANEUVERS

FY121416Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2119 GMT 11 May 78 PY

[Text] Montevideo, 11 May--It was reported here that the Brazilian and Uruguayan navies will start maneuvers today in the Atlantic which will include mock antisubmarine attacks.

The Brazilian submarine Riachuelo and the destroyers Mato Grosso and Piaui will participate in the maneuvers, which are code-named Operation Atlantis 78.

The Riachuelo, which is equipped with hydroelectric propulsion, is 192 meters in length and 2,800 tons in weight. It was built in the United Kingdom and incorporated into the Brazilian Navy in 1976.

Uruguay is participating with the destroyers Uruguay and 18 de Julio in addition to naval airplanes.

The maneuvers are being carried out in Uruguayan and Brazilian waters. During the several-week period of the maneuvers the fleet will return to Montevideo and Rio Grande do Sul for 2 days each.

CENTRAL, SOUTH AMERICAN MINISTERS TO DISCUSS HUMAN RIGHTS

PA131954Y Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 1720 GMT 13 May 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] The foreign ministers of Central and South America will meet in the near future to discuss human rights problems exclusively, according to a Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry source. The ministers will also discuss the aid which the United States has withheld from several Central and South American governments because of charges of human rights violation.

However, our very reliable source did not wish to disclose the country in which the ministers would meet or the date of the meeting for security reasons.

BRIEFS

RIVER PLATE BASIN FUND--La Paz, 3 May--Paraguay, Uruguay and Bolivia will be the first countries to benefit from financing granted by the River Plate Basin Fund, it was announced today in Sucre, headquarters of the fund, during the second round of sessions of fund members Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Paraguay and Uruguay. Paraguay requested financing for completing studies on the trans-Chaco road and Uruguay, for a study on the construction of a gas pipeline linking Bolivia and a port on the Plata River estuary. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2328 GMT 3 May 78 PY]

MASSERA SPEAKS ON NAVY'S ANNIVERSARY IN CORDOBA

PY131659Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1410 GMT 13 May 78 PY

[Speech delivered in Cordoba on 13 May by Argentine Navy Commander Emilio Eduardo Massera to commemorate 164th anniversary of Argentine Navy]

[Excerpts] Navy day is a festivity and that is why we are here today.

Cordoba is not just an important cultural and geographic region of our fatherland; Cordoba is also the traditional location of important army and air force units. We are here because we wish to commemorate this date with our brothers of the army and the air force, who share this festivity with us through their cordial and noble presence.

We have always been united in our defense of the fatherland against foreign enemies, but the painful experience of combating enemies from within has created a new bond, no stronger but more enduring, which is nurtured by the blood of those martyrs we cannot forget.

Some believe that we struggled to maintain an established order. But that would be minimizing the sacrifice. We fought so that the spirit of everyone would be left unblemished, to leave intact those moral guidelines which are the basis of our heritage and which are the only guidelines on which to build a nation in what otherwise is an unwieldy, heterogenous and erratic human world.

This is what we defended:

No one died here to defend the law of supply and demand, but many did die in defense of freedom, and supply and demand can be one of the many expressions of freedom;

No one died here to defend elections, but many did die to defend democracy, and elections may be, at the proper time, one of democracy's many mechanisms.

No one died here to defend equilibrium in the balance of payments, but many died to defend life and the integral development of the nation, which has a healthy economy as one of its many requirements.

The truth, the truly important fact, is that we struggled here to preserve some privileges. We fought here to defend the privilege of deciding our destiny, for the privilege of living in a society which rewards effort, for the privilege of having very specific knowledge of what our duties and our rights are, for the privilege of supporting those who suffer, for the privilege of not accepting misfortune and the submission of men as an offering to a powerful government, for the privilege of wanting justice, for the privilege of being immune to fanaticism, for the privilege of understanding the true nature of greatness, for the privilege of regarding work as dignified and not as something for sale, for the privilege of not being arrogant in victory, and for the privilege of respecting those who are wrong.

Fortunately, from its very beginning the navy has had a peaceful historical continuity which is at the exclusive service of the fatherland. For the Argentine Navy, nothing is above the fatherland.

FOREIGN MINISTER MONTES DISCUSSES DISARMAMENT

PY131800Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2245 GMT 12 May 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 12 May--Argentina believes that an active program for disarmament should also include a prohibition on the development, production and storage of all chemical weapons, new weapons of mass destruction and those causing unnecessary suffering or producing indiscriminate effects. This statement was made by Foreign Minister Oscar Antonio Montes during a talk with newsmen, who asked him how much importance the UN disarmament conference, to be held in New York from 23 May to 28 June, has for Argentina.

Montes added that this country will support all initiatives which have the aim of channeling part of the huge wealth invested by countries in armament toward social development for people.

He said that the Argentine Government assigns a high priority to this conference, which is the first one called by the United Nations, as "a unique opportunity to make a deep examination of the causes which have led to the present alarming situation of the arms race and an opportunity to take suitable measures to stop and reverse it."

The position to be taken by Argentina in New York was summarized by Montes in the following way: "As a starting point, this country believes that there can be no lasting peace and security without real and effective disarmament. Both concepts require permanent dialog among all states, plus the political will to bring the various interests at stake into harmony, on both global and regional levels.

"Equilibrium is thus an essential factor, since the existence of great disparities between weak and strong increase the possibility of interference in the domestic affairs of states in all forms, and makes it difficult to defend sovereignty and territorial integrity." He added that the principle of sovereign equality among the states and of responsibility shared by all of them in the task of disarmament should be recognized and applied in their negotiations.

He announced that Argentina will speak in favor of a gradual and balanced reduction of nuclear arsenals as an immediate step, until their complete elimination is achieved. While commenting on the willingness of this country to make its contribution toward this end, he maintained: We also reject with the same determination any attempt at discrimination, regarding the transfer of nuclear technology for peaceful use, under the pretext of preventing the horizontal proliferation of nuclear weapons.

Montes was cautious when speaking of the results of the conference because of the complexity of the subject itself and because the United Nations is not a supranational organization which can impose its solutions or measures. He believed, however, that if an agreement is reached regarding the basic principles and priorities which should guide activities toward disarmament, and if negotiations are undertaken with determination to convert them into reality, then the conference will be significantly successful.

The foreign minister stated his opinion that it is necessary to improve the structure and work procedures of the disarmament committee--an organization for negotiation of which this country is a member--in order to reach agreements, so that France and China can be members.

Otherwise, without the full participation of all states possessing nuclear weapons, the results will be very limited. That is one of the points that the Argentine delegation will maintain.

In reply to a question, Admiral Montes explained the position of this country regarding the nonproliferation treaties, one of which is regional and the other international, and about which some confusion has arisen.

The first--the Tlaltelolco treaty, by which nuclear weapons are outlawed in Latin America--was concluded in 1967 and is to be applied on a regional level. So far, Argentina and Cuba have not ratified it. Its purpose is to convert Latin America into a region free of nuclear weapons, but without any interference whatever in the development of peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

The second is the nuclear nonproliferation treaty. This country did not participate in the negotiations leading to it, and despite the fact that its purpose is to prevent the spreading of those weapons, [words indistinct] this country believes that it did not serve that purpose and was harmful because of its discriminatory nature, since it implies de jure recognition of the de facto monopoly held by the five powers possessing nuclear weapons: that is, it confirms that there are two categories of countries: those which may and those which may not have nuclear weapons. Apart from being a legal aberration, it attacks the very essence of disarmament, since no one, without exception, should have those weapons, much less be granted the right to have them. This is aside from the fact that the same nuclear powers which signed the treaty and constantly urge other countries to (?sign it) have not fulfilled the obligations they assumed. After stressing that, far from doing so, those powers have continued their production at a growing pace of always more sophisticated and lethal nuclear weapons in a vertical proliferation, he stated that Argentina, for this and other reasons, abstained from signing the treaty and that its position is still the same. It is simply a question of two different international treaties which should be dealt with from different angles and points of view.

CNEA OFFICIAL OITLINES NUCLEAR DEVELOPMENT PLANS

PY131817Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1636 GMT 13 May 78 PY

[Text] Bahia Blanca, 13 May--Rear Adm Carlos Castro Madero, president of the National Atomic Energy Commission [CNEA], has stated that "Argentina will not manufacture nuclear weapons." Castro Madero made this statement to LU 2 Radio Bahia Blanca at the end of a lecture he delivered to high-ranking officers of the naval area, which includes the navy bases of the region, and the military garrison of which the V Corps command is a part.

After denying that there is any policy change in the nuclear plan, referring to a substitution of Canadian aid by FRG aid, he said that the CNEA has submitted alternative plans to the executive branch for a decision on the best choice for the overall interests of the country.

He said that such a decision should be made "not only from the technological point of view, but also from the point of view of development." He continued: "Canada is not eliminated; on the contrary, we have cooperation agreements with several countries, but the basic supplier countries are Canada for Embalse Rio Tercero and the FRG for Atucha I."

He added: "In the future one of them might become supplier for Atucha II. From the United States we have received enriched uranium for the fuel elements of the irradiation reactors."

Referring to the announced nuclear powerplant in this city, Castro Madero said that if it is decided to install a nuclear energy-driven powerplant in the area, "we will have an economic and nonpolluting source of energy." He explained: "But that depends on the plans of the energy secretariat."

He also spoke of the future of a heavy water plant in Arroyito, Neuquen Province, regarding which he said that "the plans remain firm, but there are problems of international safeguards, which is why that technology is being held back. So Argentina has taken the road of installing a pilot plant at Atucha." He concluded by saying: "When Argentina is in a position to define its industrial plan and has the technology, I believe it will be installed in Arroyito."

Castro Madero concluded by referring to Atucha II, Embalse Rio Tercero and other plans which are being drawn up, regarding which he said that he is "waiting for the final report from the energy secretariat, which has finished the first part." He asserted: "That is, decisions have been made on the electrification network up to the year 1985 and the second stage, from that year until 2000, is being planned."

BOLIVIAN ARMY COMMANDER VILLALPANDO TO VISIT

PY130255Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2150 GMT 12 May 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 12 May--According to a responsible source, Gen Alfonso Villapando Armaza, commander in chief of the Bolivian Army, will arrive here next Monday. This high-ranking military officer is scheduled to arrive at Ezeiza at 1300.

RELATIVES OF MISSING PERSONS SUBMIT PETITION TO GOVERNMENT

PY121300Y Santiago Chile Radio Mineria Network in Spanish 1030 GMT 12 May 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires--A group of relatives of missing persons has submitted to the government a petition with 17,005 signatures. The group expresses its concern over the fate of thousands of missing persons. The document, which was also released to the mass media, adds that the group wishes to hold a meeting with a presidential advisory committee to find out "about our dear relatives."

INTERIOR MINISTRY REPORTS ARRESTS, RELEASES

PY130253Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2342 GMT 12 May 78 PY

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 12 May--The Interior Ministry reported today that as of 5 May five persons were arrested and placed at the disposal of the executive branch while eight persons were released. One person was authorized to leave the country within the same period of time.

AUTHORITIES REPORT SATELLITE DOWN IN BOLIVIA

PA142357Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 1740 GMT 14 May 78 PA

[Text] Salta, Argentina, 14 May--The strange object that some people in the northern zone of Salta Province, 1,700 km from Buenos Aires, claim they saw falling was in fact an artificial satellite which already has been located in Bolivian territory, official sources in Salta announced Sunday.

Many people in this part of the country claim they saw an object which resembled a soccer ball [illegible] behind the mountains on the Argentine-Bolivian border, causing an explosion that shook the earth. This took place on 6 May. Around that time some people in San Luis and Mendoza provinces reported seeing a flying saucer squadron flying in formation.

The news from Salta confirms that the artificial satellite fell on Taire Mountain in Bolivia, where it has already been located by authorities. The same sources said that the area where the artificial satellite fell has been declared an emergency zone by the Bolivian Government.

YPF SIGNS $250-MILLION CREDIT IN U.S.

PY101514Y Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 10 May 78 PY

[Text] Raul Ondarts, president of Government Oil Deposits [YPF], signed a credit agreement for $250 million with a group of international bankers in New York on 3 May.

The announcement was made by (Ernesto Varela), the financial director of the government institution, upon his return from the United States yesterday. He said that YPF will use $100 million for exploration plans and $150 million to reduce its foreign debt, transforming it from short to medium term.

The credit agreement is on a 7-year basis with a 2-and-½-year grace period. The terms of the agreement were, at the time of negotiation, the most favorable granted to our country or to YPF.

BRIEFS

RESTRICTIONS ON FIREARMS--The executive branch has upheld the restriction on the transportation of firearms, including small- and large-caliber hunting arms, in order to maintain strict control on the use of all firearms. Authorization for shipment of arms should be requested from local authorities and will be valid only for a limited time. Transportation of some semiautomatic and automatic rifles is banned under all circumstances. [Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2000 GMT 3 May 78 PY]

ELECTRONIC TELEX SWITCHBOARD--Buenos Aires--The National Telecommunications Company will inaugurate a computerized, totally electronic telex switchboard for international services on Monday. The new switchboard will permit an increase in the number of circuits to 1,200. As a consequence of the use of the new telex central, Channel 0114 will no longer be used as of Monday; nor will Channels 0111, 0112 and 0113, as of Wednesday. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1627 GMT 5 May 78 PY]

TV MICROWAVE LINK--Santa Rosa, La Pampa, 5 May--The local TV station will broadcast experimental programs transmitted by microwave this weekend. The microwave link will connect Santa Rosa with the national mircowave network through the city of Bahia Blanca. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1330 GMT 5 May 78 PY]

ARMED FORCES REITERATE GUARANTEE OF ELECTION, IMPARTIALITY

PY121441Y La Paz Radio Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 12 May 78 PY

[Text] The armed forces reiterate their decision to guarantee the electoral process with absolute impartiality and will not change that position. This report was published by armed forces headquarters and Radio Panamericana broadcasts the full communique because of its importance:

In view of rumors spread by some news media, saying that the high military command is preparing to hold a meeting of commanders of large units next week, the high military command wishes to stress that those reports are untrue. Self-serving politicians, when judging the present situation of the country, have also made statements and expressed opinions which are not based on historic truth for the purpose of distorting the true role of the armed forces by attempting to confuse public opinion which is aware that the patriotic and superior mission fulfilled by the armed forces is in accordance with the mandate of the constitution. In accordance with their civic duties, the armed forces repeat their decision to guarantee the present electoral process with absolute impartiality and will maintain that position consistent with their democratic conduct and with their spirit of service to the people of whom they are a part.

MEMBERSHIP IN GROUP OF NONALINED COUNTRIES CONFIRMED

PY131342Y La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 13 May 78 PY

[Excerpts] In a report submitted yesterday at the cabinet meeting, Foreign Minister Oscar Adriazola Valda confirmed Bolivia's membership in the group of nonalined countries. Bolivia's application received a positive vote from the 82 members of the organization. Bolivia will become an official member of the organization at the next general assembly, to be held in Belgrade in June.

OVANDO CANDIA MEETS WITH NEWSMEN, ATTACKS CIA

PY130252Y La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 12 May 78 PY

[Excerpts] The remarks of former President Alfredo Ovando Candia today became internationally known when international news agencies picked up his important statements.

The former president expressed his support for Hernan Siles Zuazo's candidacy and said that a prompt resignation of Gen Hugo Banzer would be a good way to guarantee the fairness of the coming elections.

Ovando Candia met with a group of journalists at his house in La Paz today. He stated that the election should be overseen by members of the Supreme Court and added that the ousting of President Luis Adolfo Siles Salinas had been his mistake because it had broken the constitutional trend of the Bolivian Government.

Ovando Candia acknowledged that he had changed the electoral law and said that the coming elections should be carried out by means of slates of different colors, bearing different signs, as had been requested by various opposition parties and fronts.

Ovando Candia also stated that today more than ever the armed forces should remain close to the people and be aware of the needs of the most neglected sectors of the country.

When asked about the reasons for the 1969 uprising, the former president stated that the CIA had a lot to do with the situation. He said that some day CIA's records on Bolivia will have to be disclosed, as happened with Chile.

The former president admitted that the armed forces had ordered the death of revolutionary leader Ernesto Che Guevara in October 1967.

When a journalist asked Ovando Candia whether the armed forces supreme command had ordered the death of Ernersto Che Guevara, Candia stated: Yes, all the pertinent documents are in the hands of the supreme command and it is the only one which can given any details. Ovando Candia categorically denied that the order to execute Guevara had come from him personally.

Ovando Candia also declared that the U.S. CIA had a lot to do with his ouster, carried out by rightwing sectors of the armed forces in October 1970. The CIA could not understand how Latin America could have a country capable of carrying the torch of independence, stated the former president, whose administration had nationalized the powerful Bolivian Gulf Oil, a branch of the multinational Gulf Oil Company.

In his first meeting with the press since he had returned to the country after 8 years of exile, Ovando Candia praised the political spring which he hoped would not be too short.

MILITARY PREVENTS VIOLENCE AT COCHABAMBA POLITICAL RALLY

PY121927Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1743 GMT 12 May 78 PY

[Text] Cochabamba, 12 May--It was reported here today that troops of the motorized infantry of the Bolivian Army have prevented serious clashes between opposing peasant groups near this city.

The report, published here this morning in a military communique, said that political agitators not from the peasant class tried to commit acts of violence following disagreements over electoral questions during a Christian Democratic Party rally.

Cochabamba lies 400 km southeast of La Paz.

The army communique also says that the presence of military patrols protecting the peasant population deterred the armed agitators, who fled.

The military communique is the first report of the army acting to keep the peace between antagonistic political groups, it was added here.

For the first time in 12 years Bolivians will elect president, vice president and members of congress on 9 July.

D1

U.S. CRITICISM OF PROTECTIONISM TERMED 'ARROGANT'

PY112022 Rio de Janiero JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 11 May 78 p 10 PY

[Editorial: "Arrogant Advice"]

[Text] As though he were a Disraeli giving orders from Queen Victoria to the people of India, the Treasury Department under secretary for international affairs, Fred Bergsten, issued orders for the Brazilian economy.

He wants to eliminate the protectionism which he considers damaging not only to Brazil but to other countries and to bilateral relations as well. He wants to eliminate customs tariffs he considers "extremely high." He also expressed his displeasure over subsidies for Brazilian exports. And finally he imperially recommends that Brazil behave like Uruguay, which promised to reduce all subsidies for leather exports after 1979 and for all other products after 1983.

Bergsten's speech in New York revealed a surprising metamorphosis. Among all U.S. officials connected with international trade problems, Bergsten is certainly the most well informed on the Brazilian position and all the technical reasons for granting export subsidies--a universal practice, by the way. Bergsten himself was here in Brazil last year to witness Brazilian officials' willingness to negotiate.

Bergsten's metamorphosis is even more surprising because it stands in contrast to what Alan Wolff, White House vice representative in trade negotiations, said after meeting with several Brazilian officials: "We made considerable progress in 2 days of talks with the Brazilians, and this will certainly put us in a position of better understanding in the multilateral GATT negotiations in Geneva."

And what is more shocking is that this attitude originates from the most conciliatory department of the U.S. administration, the Treasury Department headed by Secretary Michael Blumenthal, who is Bergsten's superior. And that conciliatory attitude appeared where we had expected to find a more intransigent attitude which would have been more appropriate for the new czar of Carter's economic policy, Robert Strauss, who is Wolff's superior.

As Finance Minister Simonsen stated so well, if Bergsten has complaints about Brazilian policy, so does Brazil about the trade act, which "constitutes a unilateral decision on mulitlateral problems which fall within the scope of GATT." Simonsen also recalled the need to keep open the door to negotiations and compromise: "The thing is to sit down at a table and discuss it. By definition any negotiation means that everyone must give up something. The thing is that we are not ready to be the only ones to concede. Neither are we prepared to give the most."

Very likely Bergsten's ill-timed speech will not disturb the serenity necessary for the next GATT meeting in Geneva, where Brazil will accept discussion of its export incentives, provided the United States and other industrialized countries link countervailing duties only to evidence that there has been damage.

Very likely good sense will prevail despite the arrogant tone of Bergsten's speech.

Azeredo Responds to Bergsten Statements

FY130239Y Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 11 May 78 p 50 PY

[Text] Brasilia--Foreign Minister Azeredo da Silveira yesterday responded to the statement made by U.S. Treasury Under Secretary Fred Bergsten that Brazil should abandon its protectionist policy, noting that the United States uses difference mechanisms to regulate its imports and exports.

Silveira says that he understands why the United States is in favor of GATT, which protects the U.S. exports, although he said that Washington does not use the same organization to regulate its imports which are controlled by U.S. legislation (the trade act).

The foreign minister also expressed much optimism because yesterday in Brasilia he heard from Ambassador Alan Wolff, President Carter's vice representative in trade matters, [title as published], that the United States is now ready to accept an international damage clause from GATT to be included in its own import-restricting mechanisms. In other words, what Ambassador Wolff said is that the United States is now ready to accept the international judgment which it had been rejecting.

Silveira made this statement through Itamaraty official spokesman Luis Felipe Lampreia, who recalled that the United States is the only country which maintained its regular, overall percentage participation in Brazilian exports, although our exports have expanded quite a bit so as to confront the consistent increase in petroleum prices.

Some of Itamaraty's economic experts have agreed with a statement by Bergsten that the maintenance of Brazilian subsidies to exports will always be a point of constant irritation in trade relations with the United States.

Because it agrees with this statement Brazil is participating in all negotiations aimed at creating a code of subsidies which may be accepted by all countries, especially the United States. If these negotiations fail, Brazilian imports to the United States will depend on a U.S. law which is unilateral and not subject to GATT norms.

PORTELLA DELAYS PRESENTATION OF POLITICAL REFORM PLAN

FY121849Y Florianopolis Radio Diario da Manha in Portuguese 1515 GMT 12 May 78 PY

[Text] The political reform plan which Senator Petronio Portello had been announcing for May will now only be submitted to Congress in July and discussed after the July recess, in August. The delay is said to be caused by the MDB [Brazilian Democratic Movement] crisis in the State of Rio de Janeiro, where the regional directorate has scheduled its convention for May, thus interfering with the talks Portella wanted to have with the opposition before drawing up his final reform suggestions.

Despite this delay, ARENA [National Renewal Alliance] leaders believe that the reforms will include a series of measures intended to soften the national security law by adjusting it to the new situation to be created by the elimination of Institutional Act No 5 and the adoption of the reforms suggested by Portella, such as reinstatement of habeas corpus, reinstatement of magistrate guarantees, deletion of constitutional Article 185 and adoption of security safeguards. The provisions of the national security law will be modified, including those related to students and journalists.

The meeting between Petronio Portella and MDB President Ulysses Guimaraes to discuss how the reforms will be introduced will only be held sometime between 22 and 26 May. Then, Petronio Portella will draw up the reforms in their final form to be submitted to Congress.

Next Thursday Portella will present the text of the reforms as they now stand to the ARENA national directorate, from which he would like to receive suggestions and opinions before meeting with Ulysses Guimaraes. Prior to that meeting Portella will again discuss the reforms with President Geisel and will meet behind closed doors with other MDB leaders to gather their opinions.

As it stands now, Petronio Portella has no intention of amending Article 156 of the constitution, which deals with the organization of political parties. This amendment will only be implemented at a later date after approval of the first batch of reforms and probably after September, when the electoral college will elect the new state governors. The government is said to be concerned about a premature modification of the two-party system which might invalidate the party loyalty principle, which must rule in the [state] electoral colleges.

SIMONSEN CLARIFIES REPORTS ON LOAN WITHDRAWALS

PY121425Y Sao Paulo Cadeia Verde Amarela in Portuguese 1000 GMT 12 May 78 PY

[Text] Finance Minister Mario Henrique Simonsen has responded to reports appreading in some newspapers during the last few days. Accordirg to the newspapers, some companies are taking advantage of devaluation for speculative purposes by not withdrawing their foreign loans in U.S. currency from the Central Bank until the day after devaluation is announced.

Mario Simonsen stated that these loans can only be withdrawn by the companies every 30 days under established terms.

Simonsen also said that devaluation rates are very unpredictable, sporadic and are not known in advance.

According to Simonsen, the cruzeiro minidevaluations will continue and the changes can not be predicted.

BRIEFS

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL--A decree signed yesterday recognizes the National Industrial Development Council, which is responsible for formulating the country's policy on industrial development. It will be headed by the industry and commerce minister and includes the ministers of energy and planning, the armed forces chief of staff, the presidents of the Central Bank, Bank of Brazil, National Development Bank, National Industry Federation and National Commerce Federation. The council is responsible for coordinating regional industrial development projects with the national industrial development plan. [Text] [Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 11 May 78 PY]

NEW OIL FIND--Rio de Janeiro--PETROBRAS has detected petroleum-producing rocks in the pioneer Rio de Janeiro submarine well 57 (1-RJS-57) which is being drilled in the Campos Basin, some 50 km from the Atafona Beach. This finding was made at a depth of between 2,440 and 2,543 meters. Production tests will be made only when a depth of 4,000 meters is reached. [Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 10 May 78 p 26 PY]

LABOR MINISTER SAYS RIGHT TO STRIKE MAY BE REINSTATED

FY111639Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1510 GMT 11 May 78 FY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 11 May--Labor Minister Vasco Costa said that the Chilean Government does not rule out the possibility of reinstating the right to strike in the future. He added that this may take place after the present stage of reorganization of labor relations.

STATUS OF EXILE RETURN REQUEST REPORTED

FY121915Y Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 12 May 78 FY

[Excerpts] Santiago--Foreign Ministry sources have reported that as of 24 April the Chilean Goverrment had accepted 103 requests from Chileans who want to return.

Amond the requests accepted which were previously submitted to Chilean consulates abroad are those of (Rene Frias Ojeda), former Santiago mayor and Santiago district senator; (Marmaduque Lopez Miranda) and (Rodrigo Amado Lopez Miranda); (Dario Fonletel Brown), former journalist; and (Gonzalo Martins), former president of the National Planning Office.

It was reported that as of 24 April, 70 requests were under consideration. Among them are those of (Miguel Angel Solar Silva), former president of the Catholic University Student Federation; (Victor Barturiz Castex), former Socialist senator; (Franco Barturiz Castex); and (Juan Alvaro Bardel Amiuri), former Internal Revenue Department director.

The sources added that 94 requests to return to Chile have been denied because they did not meet the requirements established by the Interior Ministry. Among the denied requests were those submitted by: (Carlos Bazano Rojas), former foreign relations under secretary and ambassador to Rome; and (Claudio Huespe), former Christian Democrat senator.

Details on Christian Democrat

FY130343Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0118 GMT 13 May 78 FY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 12 May--It was officially reported here tonight that the Chilean military government authorized the return to the country of Bernardo Leighton, the exiled Christian Democrat leader.

The resolution was approved by the Interior Ministry within the spirit of reconciliation inspired by the recent amnesty law and under the condition that the leaders of the dissolved Chilean Christian Democratic Party will fully respect current legal rules.

Leighton, former vice president and former minister during the administration of former President Eduardo Frei (1964-1970), formally submitted his request to the Chilean Consulate in Caracas, Venezuela, after making a special trip to that country from Italy, where he has has been living for 4 years.

The official report stated that the supreme government shows once more in this manner its firm willingness to overcome all division and that it does not expect any reward other than loyal effort in the service of national reconstruction.

According to the local press, the government had previously prohibited the return of the Christian Democrat leader due to his alleged anti-Chilean campaigns abroad.

Leighton and his wife were seriously hurt in a terrorist attack 2 years ago in Rome, where they voluntarily went into exile after the military takeover of 11 September 1973 which overthrew the late President Salvador Allende.

The Interior Ministry also indicated that it opposed the return of Aniceto Rodriguez, former senator and former secretary general of the Socialist Party, who requested authorization to return to the country. The ministry accused the leftist politician of being a disruptive factor who would disturb the security and order which has been achieved with so much effort for the population.

POPULAR UNITY COMMITTEE ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON GOVERNMENT

PA131428Y Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 8 May 78 p D-21 PA

[Text of communique issued by Chilean exiles on 5 May in Caracas]

[Text] With great ostentation and in a vain attempt to cleanse its tarnished international image, the Chilean military junta has published an amnesty decree for the prisoners still in the dictatorship's prisons and for the many Chilean exiles, numbering a million persons, who according to the decree can return to their country.

This measure, which appears to be an opening made in order to reestablish the tattered Chilean coexistence, is nothing but a political maneuver to deceive international public opinion and to ease pressures, both national and international, on the regime. This pressure became more acute lately with the investigation carried out by the U.S. courts into the treacherous murder of Orlando Letelier, Chile's former ambassador to the United States, and because of conflicts with neighboring countries.

In order to avoid confusing interpretations regarding the real extent of this amnesty--the amnesty decree is being distorted day by day with new limitations--we believe that the following declaration is in order:

1. The above-mentioned decree favors a group of 69 Chileans who had been arbitrarily sentenced to the Santiago penitentiary. Another large group of political prisoners, charged with false crimes and still subject to trial, remain in prison.

2. The amnesty does not cover the 2,500 missing persons who were arrested by Pinochet's sinister police services. It is not known if they have been murdered or if they are still in the dictatorship's secret prisons. The tyranny has so far refused to reply to appeals made by the United Nations, the church, the prisoners' relatives and international public opinion asking the regime to explain what happened to these countrymen.

3. For the large number of Chilean political exiles, the situation has not changed. Pinochet intends to discriminate against them and to condition their return on an anticipated renunciation of their ideals and the acceptance of his illegal regime.

4. We contend that the main purpose of the amnesty decree is to save the agents of the National Intelligence Directorate (DINA) and other repressive bodies who, as "authors, accomplices and concealers, have committed criminal actions during the state of siege," according to a textual quote from the decree. The amnesty intends to erase the crimes and to prevent judgements against the murders of Gen Carlos Prats, Orlando Letelier, Marta Ugarte and so many other patriots and also to leave unpunished the torturers and kidnapers of thousands of Chileans who have been the victims of the repressive regime.

The Venezuelan people must know that in Chile human rights will not be fully respected, peace will not be reestablished and assurances will not be given to Chileans expelled from their country until Pinochet is overthrown. The Chilean people, with the aid of international solidarity, are striving to attain this patriotic objective in the near future. We are aware that only a government representing all democratic parties and a vast ideological plurality can lead to the recovery of freedom and the reestablishment of fraternal relations among all Chileans.

For the Popular Unity committee: Socialist Party, Communist Party, Radical Party, Unitary Popular Action Movements, Christian Left

[signed] Alejandro Bell, C.I.

RELATIVES OF MISSING PROTEST END OF COURT INVESTIGATIONS

PY121728Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1458 GMT 12 May 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 12 May--Relatives of allegedly detained or missing Chilean citizens charged here today that the legal investigation to find these citizens has stopped.

They added that the courts stopped the proceedings after the recent amnesty for political prisoners, which supposedly also solved the situation of missing persons.

A pastoral appeal issued by Catholic Church authorities warned of this consequence of the amnesty and added its solidarity with relatives of missing persons.

The relatives noted today at a press conference that three Santiago judges terminated about 20 cases on the basis of the 18 April amnesty.

The organization of relatives of missing persons fears that other courts throughout the country to which charges of kidnaping have been submitted will reach similar decisions.

According to this group, 617 cases have been submitted with affidavits and evidence. These concern Chileans detained or kidnaped during the state of siege.

The Chilean Government enforced the state of siege in 1973 after the overthrow of socialist President Salvador Allende, and it was repealed 2 months ago.

A member of the organization who claims she lost her husband and sons in 1976 compared her uncertainty to the trauma experienced by the widow of former Italian Prime Minister Aldo Moro. There, she added, they at least returned the body.

PINOCHET RECEIVES FIRST URANIUM CONCENTRATE SAMPLE

PY121953Y Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 12 May 78 PY

[Text] Chilean President Augusto Pinochet received today the first sample of uranium concentrate produced in Chile, during a meeting with Mines Minister Enrique Valenzuela; Gen Orlando Urbina, president of the Chilean Copper Corporation [CODELCO]; and Gen Jaime Estrada (ret), president of the Chilean nuclear commission.

Gen Jaime Estrada talked with journalists about the meeting: [begin Estrada recording] During this meeting the president was given the first sample of uranium concentrate produced in Chile. I believe this is significant because it may mark the start of a highly important activity for our country. [end recording]

General Estrada noted that the experimental [nuclear] plant built jointly by the Chilean nuclear commission and CODELCO-Chile is operating at Chuquicamata.

General Estrada also noted the significance of this uranium concentrate sample: [begin Estrada recording] [Words indistinct] basic procedures to establish values and guidelines from which we can develop a production plant. But I must stress that all this is at the experimental level, that is, it is a pilot plant. [end recording]

Jamie Estrada noted that at the Latin American level Argentina has been producing uranium concentrate for industrial purposes for several years. He added that most Latin American countries are involved in the exploitation of uranium, that a feasibility study is in progress on the future installation of an industrial plant and that at present our experimental nuclear reactors are using imported fuel.

Mines Minister Enrique Valenzuela noted the future meaning of this sample of uranium concentrate. [recorded passage indistinct] The mines minister also discussed the chances of finding uranium deposits in Chile and the prospecting that has been done. [recorded passage indistinct] In conclusion the minister noted that it has been impossible to establish costs so far. This is very difficult to do in a pilot plant [words indistinct] first determine the cost for the production of uranium concentrate.

PERUVIAN AMBASSADOR BACKS PINOCHET'S INDUSTRIAL ZONE PLAN

PY111852Y Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 11 May 78 PY

[Text] Gen Guillermo Arbulu Galliani, the new Peruvian ambassador to Chile, has stated that the proposal which President Pinochet made in Africa is a positive undertaking.

This proposal concerns the creation of a trilateral industrial complex on the (?Chilean-Peruvian) border. In the proposal which President Augusto Pinochet made on Monday, he appealed to all Bolivian and Peruvian brothers to support the(?El Valle) industrial complex.

The Peruvian ambassador issued this statement shortly after he presented his credentials to President Pinochet in a ceremony held at the Diego Portales Building. General Arbulu said that Pinochet's proposal may succeed.

BUSDRIVERS REITERATE DECISION TO STAGE 24-HOUR STRIKE

PA131509Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0025 GMT 13 May 78 PA

[Text] Bogota, 12 May (LATIN)--The union of urban busdrivers today reiterated its decision to stage a 24-hour strike on Monday in Colombia's principal cities. It will thus press its demands for labor benefi's. In a statement released today, the United Committee of Transport Workers [Comite Unitario de Trabajadores del Transporte] announced that the strike is designed to draw attention to the list of demands which was submitted in mid-1977. The demands include 8-hour workdays, fixed wages and the elimination of the deposits which serve as insurance against damage to the vehicles. Unofficial estimates indicate that the strike could involve some 100,000 busdrivers throughout the country.

The busdrivers' movement coincides with a wave of unrest during the night among government workers and street disturbances in which fies have been set and buses stoned in protest against a recent increase in urban fares.

Government workers have threatened to stage a 24-hour strike on 18 May to repudiate an executive decree which increased their wages by an average of 15 percent. Labor union spokesmen have described the increase as "insignificant" because they feel that it does not compensate for the increase in the cost of living, which was 27 percent last year, according to official statistics.

The National Labor Council, which is made up of the country's four largest labor unions, has announced that it supports the protest movements of the busdrivers and government workers. The council organized the civil strike of 14 September 1977, which left 12 dead and led to confrontations with the public forces.

Col Jorge Bulla, chief of police of Bogota, said that special security measures have been taken to forestall a recurrence tonight of the street disorders, staged under the pretext of protesting the increased fares. The police chief said that although precise data is not yet available, there are indications that anarchists who want to disrupt public order are participating in the disturbances.

Government Guarantees Transportation Services

PA131950Y Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 13 May 78 PA

[Text] Bogota--The government affirmed today that it will guarantee urban transportation services on Monday, discarding the possibility that an alleged strike announced by a sector of drivers grouped in the union of urban busdrivers will be realized.

Labor Minister Juan Gonzalez Restrepo told Radio Cadena Nacional that security measures were being adopted to protect drivers not participating in the strike. He said that he trusted the better judgment of the nation's transportation unions and added that the measures agreed on are positive. He discarded the possibility that the strike will be realized.

Meanwhile, Pedro Chacon, secretary general of the United Committee of Transport Workers, confirmed that the measures announced by the government on the 10-hour working day and the elimination of the guaranty deposit were supported by the committee.

However, Luis Carlos (?Trelles), president of the Union of Drivers and Workers of the Transportation Industry, described the measures as unacceptable to this sector and insisted that the strike will begin at 0000 Monday.

Preventive Measures Taken

PA150404Y Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 15 May 78 PA

[Text] Bogota--The army took over the capital this afternoon to implement the special measures adopted by the national government to prevent disruptions of public order as a result of the announced busdrivers' strike starting at midnight tonight. The military deployment has been intense for the past hour and, because it is Sunday, there are more troops than pedestrians in some sectors of the city. Part of the emergency plan for Bogota includes strict vigilance at bus terminals and along routes in order to guarantee the security of the vehicles and provide the facilities to the bus owners who refuse to suspend service.

The commander of the military institutes brigade, Armando Orejuela, said to this station that official measures will be implemented to prevent the action of the rebels and to guarantee the people's freedom of movement. Nevertheless, the high-ranking officer expressed confidence that bus service will not be disrupted and explained that all the measures announced are of a preventive nature.

Persons on bicycles, motorcycles and other vehicles without licenses have not been allowed to circulate in Bogota since 1800 today. The measure is part of the emergency plan drafted by the government to prevent public disturbances now that the busdrivers are preparing to go on strike at midnight. Also, in less than 1 hour, starting at 2000, a dry law will be declared in the city until further notice. Meanwhile, Bernardo Gaitan Mahecha, mayor of Bogota, is putting the final touches on the additional transportation plan agreed upon with the busowners to guarantee normal service after midnight tonight.

The government and the busowners reaffirmed tonight their earlier announcement that they will provide normal bus service tomorrow. At 1800 measures were initiated which included those agreed upon in meetings held yesterday by the mayor, the commander of the military institutes brigade and the Bogota police to try to guarantee adequate transportation for the people of Bogota tomorrow in their travel to and from work.

Julio Cesar Cortez, president of the National Corporation of Urban Buses, Corpobuses, and Hernando Torres, president of the Colombian Federation or Urban Transporters, affirmed that the drivers in the service of the two organizations, which represent all the Bogota bus companies, received precise orders to report to work Monday in the normal manner. Both leaders confirmed that the companies affiliated with Corpobuses and the Federation of Urban Transporters are prepared to provide normal bus service since they have received appropriate guarantees from authorities. The leaders said they have complete confidence that the people will have no problem tomorrow because only one of the many drivers unions, Unimotor, has declared a strike, which has not received the support of the other unions.

A total of 29,000 drivers affiliated with Unimotor throughout the country tonight reaffirmed their decision to declare a strike at midnight tonight. The union, which has members in 17 departments, remains firm in declaring a strike within the next few hours.

THREE CABINET CHANGES ANNOUNCED; OTHER MINISTERS REMAIN

PA130242Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0207 GMT 13 May 78 PA

[Excerpts] Lima, 12 May (AFP)--It has been officially announced that Peru's ministers of the interior, economy, and commerce and industries were replaced tonight after President Francisco Morales Bermudez' cabinet tendered its resignation.

Interior Minister Gen Luis Cisneros will be replaced by Gen Fernando Velit, who until now held the post of general director of intelligence.

Two civilians, Javier Silva Ruete and Gabriel Lanatta, will replace the economy and finance and the industry and commerce ministers, Gens Alcibiades Saenz and Gaston Ibanez, respectively.

All other cabinet members have been confirmed in their posts. The new ministers will be sworn in Monday.

The appointment of two civilians to ministries directly related to the economy is interpreted here as a bow to the rightwing sectors involved in negotiations with the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

The IMF had categorically stated that it saw no international "credibility" in Minister Saenz' economic policy. The private sector, for its part, had been requesting that experts be placed in charge of the country's economy.

Government Crisis Rumored

PY122322Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2315 GMT 12 May 78 PY

[Text] Lima, 12 May--High-ranking Peruvian military officers were called this afternoon to an urgent meeting of the Lima Armored Division, with the attendence of President Francisco Morales Bermudez, in the midst of growing rumors of a forthcoming government crisis.

About 12 tanks have their motors running and [words indistinct] actions on alert on the avenue next to the Armored Division, while an extraordinary number of people have gathered on nearby streets.

Although there has been no official report on the matter, it was unofficially said that significant events may occur tonight.

These events are expected due to the resignations submitted this morning by the economy minister, Gen Alcibiades Saenz Barsallo, and the industry minister, Gen Gaston Ibanez O'Brien.

The two officers were immediately replaced by two civilians: Gabriel Lanatta as industry minister and Javier Silva Ruete [as economy and finance minister] [words indistinct] of the Andean group.

GOVERNMENT CLOSES ALL SCHOOLS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

PA150438Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0423 GMT 15 May 78 PA

[Text] Lima, 15 May (AFP)--Classes will be suspended as of tomorrow throughout Peru, including private schools and universities. The measure, announced tonight by the education minister and university officials, will remain in effect until further notice.

No reasons were given for the measure, which came as a surprise to the people because this afternoon the Lima teachers had called off a strike they began on Monday of last week.

MORALES STRESSES NEED FOR FREEDOM AT MILITARY CEREMONY

PY131236Y Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 May 78 PY

[Text] President Morales Bermudez has stated that it is preferable for a country to have complete freedom of speech without fear of attacks from extreme minorities because open debate contributes to solving problems, and because only a national majority can be responsible for establishing conditions through democratic vote.

Speaking yesterday at the Armored Division during a military ceremony, Morales Bermudez said that today there is true freedom of speech, which perhaps had not been seen in the country in the last 50 years.

The president added that freedom is not given by a weak government. Freedom is granted by a government which feels strong, a government which has outlined its policies for the establishment of a more solid democracy than that which we have experienced at other periods in our history.

Speaking about leftist and rightist attacks, he noted that within the principle of humanism and freedom they too have the right to speak.

The Peruvian president noted that this second stage of the revolutionary government has acquired both the good and bad aspects of the first revolutionary stage, but that it essentially enforced an institutional concept. He added that some viable and flexible formula should be enforced in the future, particularly to be included in the new constitution, which would enable military institutions, without being directly involved in the national political life, to be represented in true political activities to defend the fatherland because this involves sovereignty and development.

He said that the crisis which Peru is experiencing is a reflection of the present crisis the world is experiencing. He noted the international recession, and added: We are experiencing its attack.

Morales Bermudez added that during the first years of the process, the reforms enforced frightened the national private sectors, causing a restriction in investments which in turn forced the government to fill the vacuum by making large financial efforts involving foreign and domestic indebtness so that national development would not suffer. He said: The Peruvian Government made large investments during these past years, and we now must (?give) rational and natural room to private (?investment).

The president also mentioned the polarization of forces resulting from the new responsibilities called for by the noncapitalist and noncommunist nature of the Peruvian revolutionary model. It is precisely this polarization which caused various sectors to attack the government and national institutions, he continued.

Also present at the ceremony at the Armored Division were navy, war and air force ministers, all generals and admirals of the armed forces, and high-ranking police officers.

AUSTERITY MEASURES APPLIED TO ARMED FORCES, POLICE

PA131639Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1542 GMT 13 May 78 PA

[Text] Lima, 13 May--Peru's armed forces and police will be subjected to economic austerity measures under a decree published in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE today. The measure suspends purchases of automobiles for the two institutions and reduces allocations of free gasoline for their vehicles by 20 percent.

In addition, measures are to be taken to reduce the number of military attaches and auxiliary personnel assigned to diplomatic posts abroad. Moreover, openings for study abroad will be cut to a bare minimum and there will be a reduction of trips within and outside the country by commissions of the two institutions for purposes of service, study or change of assignment.

The decree indicates that there will be a drastic reduction of expenditures for official acts of protocol, social activities and receptions. These will be limited to civil-patriotic ceremonies.

Finally, the decree limits decorations to the minimum. To this end, present procedures will be revised.

DE LA PUENTE SAYS FINANCIAL SITUATION IMPROVING

PY121411Y Lima Radio Union in Spanish 1130 GMT 12 May 78 PY

[Text] On his return yesterday from Washington, Foreign Minister Jose de la Puente Radbill announced that the IMF has informed private banking sectors that Peru has taken significant steps in the stabilization of its public finances.

He emphasized that this recognition created a favorable impression in private banking sectors, which immediately made short-term financial arrangements for both the public and private sectors.

The necessary (?conditions) have also been established for the [words indistinct] renegotiation of the standby agreement with the IMF for $110 million [words indistinct] (?and receive) loans from the private banking sectors in order to improve its balance of payments.

He emphasized that the political basis for the general reorganization of the external debt has been implemented in order to allow the country to obtain the resources needed to reactivate Peru's economic and social development process.

'OPENNESS, CORDIALITY' OF PERU-U.S. MEETINGS NOTED

PY122037Y Tacna Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 12 May 78 PY

[Editorial: "De la Puente"]

[Text] The series of meetings which Peruvian Foreign Minister Jose de la Puente Radbill held in Washington with high-ranking officials of the U.S. administration is now ending.

Minister De la Puente traveled with advisers representing productive sectors of the country. In Washington Secretary of State Cyrus Vance reasserted his country's full support for Peruvian efforts to overcome the current crisis. It was reported that these talks and contacts will continue in New York in 2 weeks.

The openness and cordiality which prevailed through these contacts proves that Peru's policy in these circumstances is correct. Ours is a serious and responsible policy which has set aside the easy recourse to demagogery in order to achieve a definite solution for current problems. The efforts of the Peruvians must be assisted through international cooperation [words indistinct] it must be acknowledged that international economic stability is necessary.

POLITICAL LEADERS SCORE GOVERNMENT'S ECONOMIC POLICY

PA142340Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1818 GMT 14 May 78 PA

[Text] Lima, 14 May (AFP)--Victor Raul Haya de la Torre, American Revolutionary Popular Alliance leader, announced that his party will open a new road for Peru in the constituent assembly which will be elected next June.

Meanwhile, the leaders of the Christian Popular Party, the Revolutionary Socialist Party and the Worker-Peasant-Student Popular Front (FOCEP) criticized the military government, particularly its economic policy.

The National Union (Odriista) has decided to suspend its criticism of the military government to allow it to solve the economic crisis, one of the worst the country has ever had.

Speaking last night at a meeting in a southern district of Lima, Haya de la Torre said that the constituent assembly is not going to solve the economic crisis, but that it will permit investigation of its causes which stem from poor planning and bad government.

Luis Bedoya, Christian Popular Party leader, criticized the military government last night in Cuzco, southeast Peru, which he blamed for the current economic crisis because it implemented the policy by which the state controls private enterprise.

Retired General Leonidas Rodriguez, leader of the Revolutionary Socialist Party, said during a meeting in Ica, 300 km south of Lima, that the people are paying the consequences of the crisis which consists of an outrageous increase in the cost of living and which has worsened "because the regime has surrendered to local capitalism and to imperialism."

Genaro Ledezma, leader of FOCEP (extreme left), said last night at a meeting in Trujillo, 500 km north of Lima, that the International Monetary Fund is pleased with the price increases which are affecting the people.

FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON ARIAS' RETURN, OTHER TOPICS

PA120439Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0108 GMT 12 May 78 PA

[Text] San Jose, 11 May (ACAN-EFE)--Panamanian Foreign Minister Nicolas Gonzalez-Revilla said here this afternoon that former Panamanian President Arnulfo Arias is fully entitled [autorizado] to return to Panama whenever he wishes. The Panamanian Government's decision to facilitate the return of all exiles, said Gonzalez-Revilla, includes the former president, who has been living in Miami, Florida, since his fall from power in 1968. During a news conference held by Gonzalez-Revilla at the conclusion of a visit to Costa Rica, he said that Arias Madrid can fully exercise all his rights as a citizen and politician.

Gonzalez-Revilla had just concluded a meeting with his Costa Rican colleague Rafael Angel Calderon. It was the first meeting between the two foreign ministers. The principal subject discussed at the meeting was the preparation of a visit to Costa Rica by Panamanian Chief of Government Gen Omar Torrijos on 22 May for the renewal of an agreement between Panama and the Tropical Agronomic Research and Education Center [Centro Agronomico Tropical de Investigacion y Ensenanza]. Torrijos proposed meeting Costa Rican President Rodrigo Carazo on the same day, with the agenda left open. The principal purpose of the meeting will be to establish personal ties between the two chiefs of state. The Panamanian foreign minister reaffirmed Torrijos' interest in personally meeting Carazo, who took office on Monday.

In a reply to newsmen, Gonzalez-Revilla said that in his opinion the relations today are following the same course of good understanding which has distinguished [relations between the two countries] for many years. He agreed with his colleague Calderon on the importance for Panama and Costa Rica to quickly reach agreement on demarcation of marine borders. Calderon's father, President Rafael Angel Calderon Guardia, and Arnulfo Arias Madrid settled an old dispute between the two countries in 1941 over the demarcation of land borders.

Gonzalez-Revilla refuted charges challenging the honesty of elections for corregimiento representatives which are slated for Panama. He said that the process is being carried out honestly, although it does follow a different structure from Costa Rican elections as far as political parties are concerned. He added that the system has wide popular support and will open the doors for the legalization of the parties.

TECHNICAL COMMITTEES ESTABLISHED TO STUDY CANAL OPERATIONS

PA130[illegible] Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 12 May 78 [illegible]

[Text] Minister of the Presidency Fernando Manfredo has said that 24 technical committees have been established for joint work involving the planning and development of the benefits Panama will receive once the Panama Canal treaties enter into force. Manfredo said that they are conducting studies which will recommend to the executive the best formulas for operating the installations, lands and belongings of the canal territory as far as personnel and property are concerned.

Manfredo explained that the waterway and its installations cannot be administered directly as part of the central government because of the delay that would occur in its management by establishing a bureaucratic structure to administer it. Manfredo said that the concept is not unusual. In 1917 Princeton University made a study on the Canal Zone government which separated it from Washington's bureaucracy. We can do no less in view of the complexity of the installations and the benefits which they represent.

He said that the Panamanian Government has received concrete offers of technical advice and establishment of joint and private enterprises for the operation of the installations that will pass into Panamanian hands in 1 and ½ years.

Referring to the committees which are currently working, Manfredo mentioned the committees of land and waters, electric power, water, garbage, commercial centers, railroad, ports and piers, fuel supply, the theater, the bowling alley and the supermarket. All of these committees will issue recommendations and then the executive will implement the best formulas.

LABOR LEADER ISSUES STATEMENT ON COLON SITUATION

PA1218141Y Panama City Cadena Exitosa in Spanish 1240 GMT 12 May 78 PA

[Statement by Luis (Sifulo), press and labor secretary of the Colon free zone labor union, during the "Canonero de Domplin" Program--live]

[Excerpts] We have asked the workers of Colon city and province to be on the alert concerning the retaliatory measures adopted by the Colon Chamber of Commerce through its members, who have fired workers that participated in the demonstration held in Colon on Wednesday morning.

Curiously enough, to counteract that demonstration which demanded among other things that President Lakas leave Colon City immediately, official circles organized an afternoon rally at the Jose Guardia Vega Auditorium. Government employees and emergency plan employees were forced to go. Their attendance was checked with lists containing their cedula numbers.

The Colon community has also been scandalized by the dismissal of radio announcer Mauro Garcia, who worked at the Social Security Institute in the employment control department. Garcia was fired because he read a communique over the air asking for the support of the union of business workers.

We do not agree with Garcia completely but we do feel that this type of action must be censured and denounced. In the first place, it is a serious attack against the principle of freedom of expression. In the second place, it is incompatible with Garcia's profession as a radio announcer.

LABOR ROLE IN COLON DISTURBANCES CRITICIZED

PA1417211 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 13 May 78 p 10 PA

[Text] We have learned that, as a result of the events which have been occurring in Colon since last Monday, businesses in the area have suffered considerable losses since they have had to remain closed for almost 3 days.

As of Thursday very few stores had been able to open their doors and those which did so took the precaution of not raising the iron greatings which protect their display windows. These days the city of Colon gives the impression of being a dead city because commercial activity has practically come to a standstill.

Situations such as that which prevailed in the city in the past few days must necessarily be avoided at all costs if we want this Atlantic city to achieve and maintain the rate of progress and economic welfare promised by President Demetrio Basilio Lakas and certain Colon inhabitants such as Maj Eustace Smith, chief of the Second Military Zone.

The incidents in Colon, which cannot be acceptable to any Colon resident who desires better days for this city, should be considered from a broad point of view by those who played an important part in the events as well as by our authorities and by persons who loudly proclaim that they love Colon and support the revolutionary process.

The attitude of the workers is censurable. There can be no praise for the attitude of a labor union which undermines the legal provisions of a document [presumably the labor code] that has given the workers so many benefits. These arbitrary strikes and threats against the owners of business establishments are not appropriate for a serious and honest labor organization.

We believe that a review is in order in the wake of the incidents in this city, which is seeking to emerge from an unfortunate, asphyxiating situation.

SUPREME COURT RULES ON POLITICAL PARTIES LAW SUIT

PA151200Y Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 12 May 78 PA

[Text] Juan Materno Vasquez, president of the Supreme Court of Justice, today announced that the court has rejected the unconstitutionality suit filed by David Samudio. The suit asked that Article 1 of Cabinet decree No 58 of 2 March 1978 [as heard] be declared unconstitutional. This decree declared the extinction of political parties after the 1968 elections. The Supreme Court ruled that the article is not unconstitutional.

Materno Vasquez added that the Supreme Court stated that the cabinet decree which dissolved the political parties is not unconstitutional because, although the constitution does not prohibit the establishment and existence of political parties in Panama, this subject is regulated by law. Since the legislative branch has not made a pronouncement on the subject, it is to be hoped that it will do so, Materno Vasquez said. This means, he added, that the silence of the legislative branch is not necessarily an unconstitutional act.

Juan Materno Vasquez said that the court has issued a very lengthy 66-page ruling to inform the public about this controversial issue. He added that the lengthy ruling explains why the provisional government junta dissolved the political parties. It cites precedents of the court when it was composed of other judges with political views differing from what Materno Vasquez termed as Torrijism, regarding the Panamanian legislator's power to declare the political parties dissolved and regulate everything connected with their existence, establishment and permanence.

Materno Vasquez said that the court has also ruled on the suit filed by Alicia Perez, who asked that the court declare unconstitutional Decree 34 of Law 5 of 1978 establishing the system of nomination of candidates for corregimiento representatives. He said that the full court has declared that this article is not unconstitutional.

STUDENTS ISSUE RESOLUTION AGAINST CARTER VISIT

PA121434Y Panama City Radio Mia Network in Spanish 1235 GMT 12 May 78 PA

[Statement by Abel Samorano, University of Panama law school student and member of the Guaykucho-Nir student group--live]

[Excerpts] We students of the school of law, meeting in a general assembly, adopted a resolution which we will subsequently read.

The resolution which was approved by the top student organization of the school of law is as follows:

The students of the school of law and political science of the national University of Panama, meeting in a general assembly--their highest organization of democratic representation--express in this document the patriotic feeling and the repudiation of the Panamanian students and people who are aware of the imperialist intervention in their government in the form of the antipatriotic Carter-Torrijos treaties, which were imposed on them.

Whereas:

1. His person [President Carter] represents humiliation and offense, the blood of martyrs, loans and treaties which eliminate our freedom and our desire for justice;

2. His presence constitutes a flagrant intervention in our domestic problems, which humiliates the historic principles that our people have defended with their blood;

3. The premature exchange of instruments of ratification is to us an imposition on the part of U.S. imperialism and the present government for the purpose of eliminating the possibility of a second plebiscite;

4. His arrival in our country represents a basic link in the new imperialist policy of exploiting the poor countries of the world;

We resolve:

1. To repudiate President Jimmy Carter's visit to our country;

2. To oppose, by every possible means, this visit and the purposes of the same;

3. To express solidarity with the letter of Dr Cesar A. Quintero in the belief that it expresses the most solid [solido] and just position of the Panamanian people, which is: President Carter, do not come to Panama; you are imperialism.

This was the resolution approved by the top student organization of the school of law in repudiation of the possible visit by President Carter. In the resolution we state that we are going to prevent this visit by every possible means. If it does take place, we will experience times of horror and moments of bloodshed because the goal of the moment is that which we have adopted from Dr Cesar Quintero, that is, President Carter, do not come to Panama.

COSTA RICA

PRESIDENT CARAZO ODIO ON 200-MILE SEA LIMIT

PA121532Y San Jose Cadena de Emisoras Columbia in Spanish 1220 GMT 12 May 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] Costa Rican President Rodrigo Carazo Odio has said that Costa Rica will enforce respect for the 200-mile sea limit. This was his response when asked what stand his administration would take in view of statements by U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance that the United States had not recognized such a right and that our country should avoid conflicts in preventing fishing activities in its territorial waters.

POLICE CAPTURE SUSPECTS IN BOMB INCIDENT

PA122253Y San Jose Cadena de Emisoras Columbia in Spanish 1720 GMT 12 May 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] The judicial police has announced that in a few hours they will reveal the identity of the persons who placed a bomb in San Pedro Montes de Oca. This morning judicial police sources revealed that they have good leads to solve the terrorist attack staged yesterday afternoon on a Kentucky Fried Chicken establishment in San Pedro Montes de Oca.

It was learned this morning that there are four suspects, one of whom was arrested last night. This approximately 28-year-old individual, presumably the main suspect, implicated three other persons as accomplices in the attack. They, too, have been arrested.

Interior Minister's Comments

PA122311Y San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 12 May 78 PA

[News conference held by Interior Minister Juan Jose Echeverria Brealey in San Jose--live]

[Excerpt] [in progress--Echeverria] ... dynamite, with a timing device which made contact and exploded. As you know, two persons were injured--the cashier and a painter who was in the area--in addition to Roberto Morales (Umana) himself.

You may believe that the bomb exploded prematurely, because of course he would not have remained there if that had been the site where it was to be placed. Last night Morales was examined by doctors, by the coroner himself, in the course of the investigation, and it was learned that he had suffered the following injuries: contusions on the upper portion of his left hand as well as all over the right forearm, a cut in the face--on the right side of the face--and contusions on the chest. He was affected by the impact, by the noise. He was deaf--relatively deaf--for a long time. He has no serious injuries. I repeat that he was examined by doctors and the doctors are preparing a report which we may expect to receive at any moment.

Two other persons are involved in the incident, one of them very directly and the other apparently in an indirect fashion. For the time being, I will not reveal the name of the person who is believed to be indirectly involved because we do not want to harm an innocent person until we have all the evidence to identify them with the certainty with which we identify the person who was directly involved. Caution and the most elementary respect for human rights obliges us to observe proper discretion.

The other person involved, Mr Guillermo Villegas (Rumaistes), a well-known newsman, is known, because of evidence available to the office of judicial investigations, the statements made today and the statements made by the newsman himself, to be the person who provided the explosive device.

We Costa Ricans cannot allow terrorism to be freely practiced in our country. We know that all citizens will be guardians in this respect, that all citizens will cooperate with the authorities whose function it is to maintain order, and that if at any moment some unbalanced person, some fanatic, or some madman tries to commit acts of this type, we know that not only will the authorities act with the efficiency, coordination and diligence with which they acted last night but also that all Costa Ricans will be and are guardians of the country's peace.

The second comment which I would like to make on this, the first opportunity I have had to address you since I took over the Interior and Public Security Ministry, is to ask, in the future, for your understanding and cooperation in matters of this kind. We will be willing--and this first news conference is proof of it--to give all the information that is pertinent. We do not want to hide anything from any Costa Rican. But we do want to ask you from now on for your cooperation by allowing us to provide this information at the proper time, since there may be occasions in which partial information or information about what is being done may give criminals the means of evading the authorities.

[Question] Mr Minister, with regard to the information which you just gave to the effect that the bomb was to be placed in the automobile of a deputy, was this person the representative of Alajuela, Mrs Leticia Chacon of the Unity Party?

[Answer] No. We can say, from the evidence available to us at this time, that the bomb was not directed against anyone in particular. The information which we have indicates that it was to be placed in the vehicle of preferably a deputy, but not belonging to any special person, party or province.

[Question] Have you any information about the involvement of political leaders of Alajuela, specificially Mr Alvaro Gonzalez Espinosa?

[Answer] So far, the only two persons about whom we have found evidence of direct involvement are those which I have already mentioned. The investigation is continuing.

[Question] Mr Minister, did Mr Morales place the bomb at the Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurant only to have it detonate before he could place it in the vehicle as planned?

[Answer] It is our opinion that the bomb exploded ahead of time, that he did not wish it to explode there, and that it exploded prematurely for reasons which it is impossible and risky to give, since the bomb was, of course, destroyed.

VICE PRESIDENT ASSUMES AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

PA130301Y San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 12 May 78 PA

[Text] The second vice president of the republic has been assigned three specific areas of responsibility. Second Vice President Jose Miguel Alfaro has announced that he is prepared to work with the Carazo government in three specific fields. According to Jose Miguel, these three fields are: the Central American Common Market and Costa Rica's policy therein; the area of human development; and the legal services of the state. He noted that as vice president he would not like to have to substitute for President Carazo, who works without watching the clock. But if eventually I have to do so for reasons of state, he said, I will do my very best.

EL SALVADOR

FOREIGN MINISTER DISCUSSES PEACE NEGOTIATIONS

PA121504Y San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1220 GMT 12 May 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] Salvadoran Foreign Minister Jose Antonio Rodriguez Porth has said that the mediator will devote his fullest attention to cases where there is no agreement between Honduras and El Salvador. He was referring to the pacification documents presented to mediator Jose Luis Bustamante y Rivero by the Salvadoran and Honduran foreign ministers on 3 May in Lima. He added that another meeting of the Salvadoran and Honduran foreign ministers and the mediator in which the ministers will give the mediator other documents containing points of agreement is scheduled to be held on 3 June.

The Salvadoran foreign minister went on to say that the mediator will make some suggestions which may or may not be accepted by the two belligerent countries. He said that it was not possible to divulge the contents of the documents presented to the mediator as Bustamente y Rivero has asked both foreign ministers not to do so.

SOUTH AFRICAN OFFICIAL CONFERS WITH PRESIDENT

PA131952Y San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1720 GMT 13 May 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] Former South African Foreign Minister Hilgard Muller, with the rank of minister of foreign affairs [as heard], has met with President Carlos Humberto Romero in the reception room of the presidential palace. This courtesy and good-will visit by the South African official constitutes a firm step toward strengthening the relations between El Salvador and South Africa. In addition general matters regarding tourism were also discussed, official sources stated.

POLICE CONFIRM KIDNAPING OF WEALTHY INDUSTRIALIST

[illegible] ACAN in Spanish 1851 GMT 14 May 78 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 14 May (ACAN-EFE)--El Salvadoran police authorities today confirmed the kidnaping of industrialist Ernesto Sol Meza, although they did not furnish more details in order to avoid hindering the investigation. Sources close to Sol Meza's family reported that he was kidnaped early this morning. Sol Meza is a relative of Salvadoran Ambassador to the United States Roberto Quinonez Meza, who is presently in El Salvador. As the kidnapers did not leave any message, it is not known whether any subversive group was involved. Information media, particularly radio stations, have remained silent regarding the kidnaping.

The Sol Meza family, one of the wealthiest in the country, is involved in the production of soft drinks and beer.

GUATEMALA

PRESIDENT WILL NOT SUSPEND CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS

PA130404Y Guatemala City Radio Fabulosa Network in Spanish 2305 GMT 12 May 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] The Guatemalan president will not impose the public order law. In spite of the strikes, political marches and other illegal provocative activities, Guatemalan President Gen Kjell Eugenio Laugerud Garcia said this afternoon that he will not impose the public order law which permits the suspension of constitutional guarantees.

The president said he intends to go down in history as the only president who did not restrict personal and group guarantees in the country. Within 50 days General Laugerud Garcia will turn over power to Gen Fernandez Romeo Lucas Garcia, Guatemala's new constitutional president.

DCG MARCHES ON CAPITAL TO DEMAND 'STOLEN' LEGISLATIVE SEATS

PA140324Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2339 GMT 13 May 78 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 13 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--Christian Democrats from northern Guatemala continued their march today toward Guatemala City to demand the seats in congress which they consider were "stolen" from them during the vote count after the last elections. The march by the members of the Guatemalan Christian Democracy (DCG) began yesterday and coincided with the announcement by the anticommunist "liberation Movement," in the eastern part of the country initiating a similar march for the same reasons.

It is believed that the two columns could reach the capital by Thursday or Friday of next week. So far the march has been led by the Christian Democrats and has taken place without any incidents.

HONDURAS

HONDURAN, SALVADORAN PRESIDENTS MEETING POSTPONED

PA121759Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1444 GMT 12 May 78 PA

[Excerpt] Tegucigalpa, 12 May (LATIN)--Honduran Foreign Minister Roberto Palma Galvez has reported here that the proposed meeting between Honduran President Juan Alberto Melgar Castro and Salvadoran President Carlos Humberto Romero has been postponed indefinitely. He added: "For the time being a meeting between the two chief executives is not being considered as the results might not be very significant, although we do consider that contact at the highest level is always beneficial."

It is believed that the summit meeting might be held once the mediation process between Honduras and El Salvador is underway.

OAS MILITARY OBSERVERS TO EXTEND STAY ON BORDER

PA131515Y Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras in Spanish 1220 GMT 13 May 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] Tegucigalpa--The OAS military observers will continue their stay in the Honduran-Salvadoran border area for an indefinite period, it was confirmed here. Reports received yesterday afternoon said the observers would leave their posts in July after completing the tour assigned to them last April.

The Honduran and Salvadoran governments, however, consider their presence necessary. They will ask the OAS Permanent Council to extend the observers' presence for an indefinite period, which should be approved shortly before 15 July.

It was also learned that the military observers will be entrusted with a very important role in the census operations in the border area, scheduled for the second half of the current year. The census will be made in order to allow the return home of those citizens from both countries who fled the area due to the armed confrontations.

NICARAGUA

NEWSMAN ARRESTED ON RETURNING FROM COSTA RICA

PA121457Y Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 1220 GMT 12 May 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] Newsman Mario Chacon, who asked Costa Rican President Rodrigo Carazo Odio a question about the expropriation of El Murcielago Ranch--which is owned by Gen Anastasio Somoza--was arrested yesterday by immigration officers in Penas Blancas when returning to the country. Reportedly, he was held for 2 hours and interrogated about his activities in Costa Rica. The political police confiscated his recordings of the interviews he had made in Costa Rica.

ARMY REPORTS DEMONSTRATIONS BROKEN UP

PA131932Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1650 GMT 13 May 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 13 May (AFP)--The army announced today that it broke up two demonstrations without any major incidents. The demonstrations were staged last night in the cities of Diriamba and Jinotepe, in southern Nicaragua. The army also warned that there are no reasons for the people to stage new protests.

The army reported that the five demands put forth by the strikers who recently occupied 50 high schools and the 30 strikers who have been fasting since last April have been met by President Anastasio Somoza. Those damands include, it was noted, the relocation of Sandinist prison inmates, the release of a female guerrilla and the government's promise not to take any reprisals against the striking students. The army also reported that not a single prisoner in the country's jails is there because he was involved in the incidents that took place in January in the wake of the killing of opposition newsman Pedro Joaquin Chamorro.

The army's warning not to stage demonstrations comes as a new wave of agitation seems to be taking place in Nicaragua. A demonstration that called for the execution of the killers of Pedro Jose Chamorro, second cousin of Pedro Joaquin Chamorro, took place last night in southeastern Managua, but it was not stopped by the police. Other incidents took place in San Marcos, 40 km southeast of Managua.

In turn, spokesmen for the parents and teachers association stated that President Somoza has not kept his promise not to take reprisals against the students. The latter again tried to take over high schools in Managua and other cities, but their attempts were unsuccessful.

Unrest also spread to the three higher education centers in Managua where several groups of students tried to interrupt school activities.

CHAMORRO'S COUSIN MURDERED 12 MAY

PA122006Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1715 GMT 12 May 78 PA

[Excerpts] Managua, 12 May (ACAN-EFE)--Pedro Jose Chamorro Poessy, who was murdered in his bedroom at dawn today by four masked men, was the cousin of Pedro Joaquin Chamorro Cardenal, the newsman and opposition leader assassinated on 10 January in Managua. Yoconda Arguello de Chamorro, widow of the Chamorro murdered today, and Guillermo Frutos Chamorro, his son, said that the men took about 10 minutes to shoot Chamorro. Nothing is known of the murderers' identity. Both police and the investigating authorities have under-

REPUBLIC OF CONGO DELEGATION CONCLUDES VISIT

Cooperation Agreements Signed

FL131523Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 13 May 78 FL

[Text] Four documents which strengthen relations between Cuba and the People's Republic of the Congo have been signed in the protocol room of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation in Havana City. Hector Rodriguez Llompart, minister-president of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation, and Congolese Foreign Minister Theophile Obenga signed an agreement calling for the creation of a Cuban-Congolese intergovernmental mixed commision.

The minutes of the talks held between the agriculture ministers of Cuba and of the fraternal African country were signed by the respective ministers, Rafael Francia Mestre and Marius Mouambenga. The final agreement reached between the Cuban and Congolese foreign ministries was signed by Ministers Isidoro Malmierca and Theophile Obenga.

Joint Communique Issued

FL131536Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 13 May 78 FL

[Text] The Republic of Cuba and the People's Republic of the Congo have issued a joint communique at the end of the visit by the chief of state of the fraternal country. The communique notes that Brig Gen Joachim Yhombi-Opango, chairman of the Congolese Workers' Party and chief of state of the People's Republic of the Congo, came here accompanied by a high-level delegation. During the stay of the visitors the Cuban people and leaders gave them a warm welcome as an expression of the spirit of militant solidarity which binds the two parties, peoples and governments.

In recognition of the distinguished visitor's contribution to the struggle against colonialism and imperialism and his effective participation in the building of a new Congolese society, the Government of the Republic of Cuba awarded the Jose Marti National Order to Comrade Joachim Yhombi-Opango.

The Cuban-Congolese joint communique notes the political similarities of both countries and the significant role which the assistance of socialist countries, headed by the Soviet Union, plays for the peoples of the Third World.

Both sides emphasized the commitment of their respective governments to the principles and objectives of the nonalined movement.

The Congolese delegation expressed to the Cuban side its most resolute support for the celebration in Cuba of the 11th World Youth and Student Festival.

Both sides expressed their satisfaction with the results of the visit to Cuba by chief of state Joachim Yhombi-Opango.

Comrade Joachim Yhombi-Opango invited the chief of the Cuban delegation to make a friendly visit to the People's Republic of the Congo. Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz welcomed the invitation with satisfaction.

Further Details

FL131548Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 13 May 78 FL

[Text] A joint communique was signed at the end of the visit to our country by Brig Gen Joachim Yhombi-Opango, chairman of the Congolese Workers Party Military Committee and chief of state of the People's Republic of the Congo. The communique states that the high-level Congolese delegation visited Cuba from 8 to 12 May at the invitation of Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the PCC Central Committee and president of the Council of State. During the stay of the distinguished visitor and delegation that accompanied him, the communique says, the Cuban people and leaders gave them a warm welcome as an expression of the spirit of militant solidarity which links the two parties, peoples and governments.

Comrade Yhombi-Opango and the delegation that accompanied him visited the provinces of Havana City, Havana and Matanzas where they were able to observe the scope of development achieved by the revolution. The Congolese delegation expressed its admiration and deep appreciation for the great gains attained by the Cuban revolution under the leadership of the Communist Party of Cuba and its first secretary, Fidel Castro.

For its part, the Cuban delegation expressed its admiration of the Congolese people who, led by Joachim Yhombi-Opango and the Congolese Workers Party, have resisted the maneuvers of internal and external reaction.

In examining the situation on the African Continent, both delegations confirmed the progress made by the progressive forces and reaffirmed their solidarity with the just struggles of the people of Namibia and Zimbabwe for national independence.

In the joint communique, both sides condemned the actions of imperialism and international reaction against the People's Republic of Angola and supported and hailed the revolutionary transformations in Ethiopia. They also reaffirmed their adherence to and support for the nonalined movement, which is following an active policy of opposition to the forces that threaten world peace and security.

In considering the situation in the Middle East, both delegations reiterated their condemnation of the persistent aggressive policy of Israel and demanded an end to its policy of intervention and aggression and its withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories.

Brig Gen Joachim Yhombi-Opango expressed gratitude for the warm welcome accorded him and invited our commander in chief to visit the People's Republic of the Congo. The invitation was welcomed with satisfaction by Fidel.

Yhombi-Opango Leaves for Home

FL131637Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1615 GMT 13 May 78 FL

[Text] Joachim Yhombi-Opango, chairman of the Congolese Workers Party Military Committee and chief of state and government of the People's Republic of the Congo, today left for his country after concluding an official visit to Cuba. Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the PCC and president of the Council of State, bade farewell to the Congolese leader with a strong embrace at the foot of the plane's ramp.

PCC Politburo members Juan Almeida and Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca and other members of the PCC Central Committee also bade farewell to Yhombi-Opango and his delegation. The Congolese airline plane took off from Jose Marti International Airport at 0350 this morning.

NATIONAL BANK PRESIDENT MEETS ECUADOREAN COUNTERPART

FL121224Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1121 GMT 12 May 78 FL

[Text] Raul Leon Torras, minister-president of the Cuban National Bank, has received Rodrigo Espinoza, general director of the Ecuadorean Central Bank, at the Cuban organization's headquarters. Subjects of mutual interest to the two bank leaders were discussed at the cordial meeting, which other high officials from the Cuban National Bank attended.

BRAVO LEAVES FOR CEMA MEETING IN MOSCOW

FL132320Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 13 May 78 FL

[Text] Flavio Bravo Pardo, vice president of the Council of Ministers, today left for Moscow as chief of a delegation that will participate in the 85th meeting of CEMA Executive Committee. This meeting precedes the 32d meeting of the council, the supreme CEMA organ composed of the chiefs of government of member countries, which will meet in Bucharest in June.

CUBA TO HOST CEMA MEETING ON TECHNICAL-MATERIAL SUPPLY

FL131758Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 13 May 78 FL

[Text] (Luis Gaspe Perez), vice president of the State Committee for Technical and Material Supply, has announced at a press conference that the eighth CEMA meeting on technical and material supply opens on Tuesday, 16 May, at the Atlantico Hotel in Santa Maria del Mar. It was also announced that as part of the meeting Cuba will sign bilateral agreements with the GDR, Bulgaria, the Soviet Union and other participating countries. The meeting will conclude with the signing of a protocol between the nations represented at the meeting and CEMA members.

RODRIGUEZ, MALMIERCA SIGN ITALIAN CONDOLENCE BOOK

FL122150Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2130 GMT 12 May 78 FL

[Text] Council of State and Council of Ministers Vice President Carlos Rafael Rodriguez and Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca today signed the book of condolences opened by the Italian Embassy in Cuba as a result of the death of Aldo Moro, former chairman of the Italian Council of Ministers. After signing the condolence book, the vice president and foreign minister had a brief talk with Italian Ambassador to Cuba Severio Salvatore Porcari li Destri de Raino. On behalf of the Cuban Government, Carlos Rafael Rodriguez expressed condolence for the tragic death of former Premier Moro.

GARCIA PELAEZ RECEIVES POLISH PARTY DELEGATION

FL132128Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2123 GMT 13 May 78 FL

[Text] PCC Central Committee Secretariat member Raul Garcia Pelaez today received the Polish United Workers Party [PZPR] delegation headed by PZPR Central Committee candidate member Antoni Gorny. The Cuban and Polish party officials discussed matters of party interest during the meeting, which was held in a very friendly atmosphere.

ROCA CHAIRS NATIONAL ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE MEETING

FL122236Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2202 GMT 12 May 78 FL

[Text] Blas Roca Calderio, member of the PCC Politburo and president of the National People's Government Assembly, today chaired the meeting of the Constitutional and Jurídical Affairs Committee of the country's maximum state government organ. In the second day of its meeting, the committee, which is headed by Justice Minister Armando Torres Santrayil, examined matters submitted for its consideration in order to prepare reports that it must render to the National Assembly at its next session.

An initiative concerning the penal code was heard at the meeting. The initiative suggests inclusion in the code of an official warning to citizens who could get involved in punishable activities as a result of the circumstances in which they might find themselves.

Blas Roca explained that the most important matters to be examined include a report on the draft children and youth code. During the meeting Politburo member Blas Roca Calderio said that the penal code, the military crimes law and the law on territorial boundaries of the provinces and municipalities are among the matters to be examined.

The territorial boundaries law complements the political-administrative division law and its objective is to establish and describe provincial and municipal boundaries. The boundaries to be set in the future will establish geographic points according to provisions of the national land census law.

The members of the Constitutional and Juridical Affairs Committee said they will do their best to conclude their work by the end of this month in order to have everything ready for the next assembly session.

Roca Receives Youth Code

FL132021Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2002 GMT 13 May 78 FL

[Graciela Hernandez report]

[Text] Blas Roca, member of the PCC Central Committee Politburo and president of the National People's Government Assembly, today received the draft children and youth code. Juan Mock, chairman of the National Assembly Committee for Servicing Children and Youth, delivered the draft, to which have been added the most important recommendations which the people made during public discussions of the document.

Mock reported that the committee he chairs had been working on the document for several months with love and dedication. He asserted that the code reflects the work of the revolution. He recognized the assistance given by Blas Roca, saying it was very valuable. He further announced that the code will be enacted during the 11th World Youth and Student Festival.

We expect the National Assembly deputies to enhance the draft children and youth code with their discussions, declared Blas Roca, member of the PCC Politburo and president of the National People's Government Assembly. Blas referred to the valuable contribution the people have made to the document, which was submitted to public discussion. He said he expects the code to be further enhanced at the National Assembly because there are many young deputies.

Roca added that the code will be worthy of our country's youths, worthy of the 11th festival and worthy of the old and future generations.

Durings its next session in late June, the National Assembly will discuss the draft code which, once approved, will be enacted during the 11th World Youth and Student Festival--the most important meeting of world youths.

LEZCANO CLOSES CDR SEMINAR FOR DEPUTIES-COORDINATOR

FL130057Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0033 GMT 13 May 78 FL

[Text] Jorge Lezcano Perez, member of the PCC Central Committee and Council of State and national coordinator of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution--CDR--this afternoon made the closing remarks at the seminar for deputies-coordinator of the mass organization. Lezcano said that these seminars being conducted for leaders of the organization are designed to prepare these leaders properly so that they can perform the work of the organization successfully. The highest CDR leader also hailed the result of the evaluation to which provincial and municipal deputies-coordinator were subjected. He said the evaluation had satisfactory results. The provinces of Havana City, Santiago de Cuba and Ciego de Avila won first place in these tests with 97.94 and 93 points, respectively.

Elsewhere in his remarks at the closing session, Jorge Lezcano Perez declared that, after the coordinators, the deputies-coordinator must be the most essential cadres of the organization. He also referred to work methods and the relationship that must exist between a province and a municipality, between a municipality and a zone, and between a zone and a grassroots committee. Continuing on this subject, Lezcano referred to the type of advisory interrelationship that exists between CDR organizations at the provincial level and those at the grassroots, and he said that this should help to improve future work.

He also discussed the study of theses, resolutions and documents approved at the First CDR Congress in order to implement them and work to self-finance the organization.

At the closing session of the national seminar, CDR National Coordinator Jorge Lezcano Perez outlined the principal tasks which must be given priority during the rest of the year. Among the 14 tasks he outlined are those related to the 11th World Youth and Student Festival, support for the sugar harvest and agriculture, political studies clubs, essential education, and the struggle for a sixth-grade education. Other priority tasks include support for people's government review meetings; savings; the study of theses, statutes and regulations approved at the First CDR Congress; and support for activities for the 25th anniversary of the Moncada, 20th anniversary of the triumph of the revolution, 18th anniversary of the CDR and first anniversary of the CDR congress.

NATIONAL BANK SETS INTEREST CHARGES ON LOANS

FL131734Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 13 May 78 FL

[Text] The National Bank of Cuba has issued Resolution 21 by which it establishes interest charges for credits granted, to state enterprises, agricultural-livestock cooperatives and the peasant sector. The rates of interest range from 6 to 12 percent annually on the amount of credit granted, to be increased later if the credits are not paid on schedule. The National Bank explains that these interest payments will apply only to loans that are requested after 1 May 1978 and that previous loans are exempted from this requirement.

BARBADOS

ADVOCATE-NEWS SCORES CUBAN ROLE IN ANGOLA

FL111640Y Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 6 May 78 p 4 FL

["Commentator" editorial]

[Text] According to Cuban Vice-Premier Juan Almeida Bosque in speaking before the UN General Assembly--as reported by CANA--"his government's military co-operation with Angola was something that concerned only those two nations." After that choice bit he went on to slander President Carter's human rights concerns before plunging into more customary communist propaganda on southern Africa and the American presence in Guantanamo. But what of the Cuban presence in Angola?

The use of Cuban troops as bought-and-paid-for mercenaries of the Soviet Union in promulgating a minority Marxist regime in Angola is documented history. Were it not for these paid "butchers" of the Russians, Agostinho Neto and his communists would be long since gone from the Angolan scene. Thus "might makes right" in Angola and "political power comes from the muzzle of a gun." And people's liberation they call it!

Likewise, in Ethiopia and now Eritrea we see the curious spectacle of Cuban mercenaries with white skins busily killing black people, while black governments in the OAU stand silently by, or--at best--save their ire for the militant white stance in resisting black majority rule in southern Africa. An interesting case of political schizophrenia I would call it.

But you will be hearing more of the Cuban "butchers" in Africa. Soon they will be showing black communists how to kill other black people of different political aspirations in many other areas in Africa. And all of course to "liberate" these hapless blacks from the non-communist regimes they presently espouse.

But once the "liberty" is achieved and the Soviet-backed communists are in power all freedom is lost for each and every member of the society with the exception of the Russian-supported military elite. And that is what Cuba supports in Africa, like it or not! Commentator

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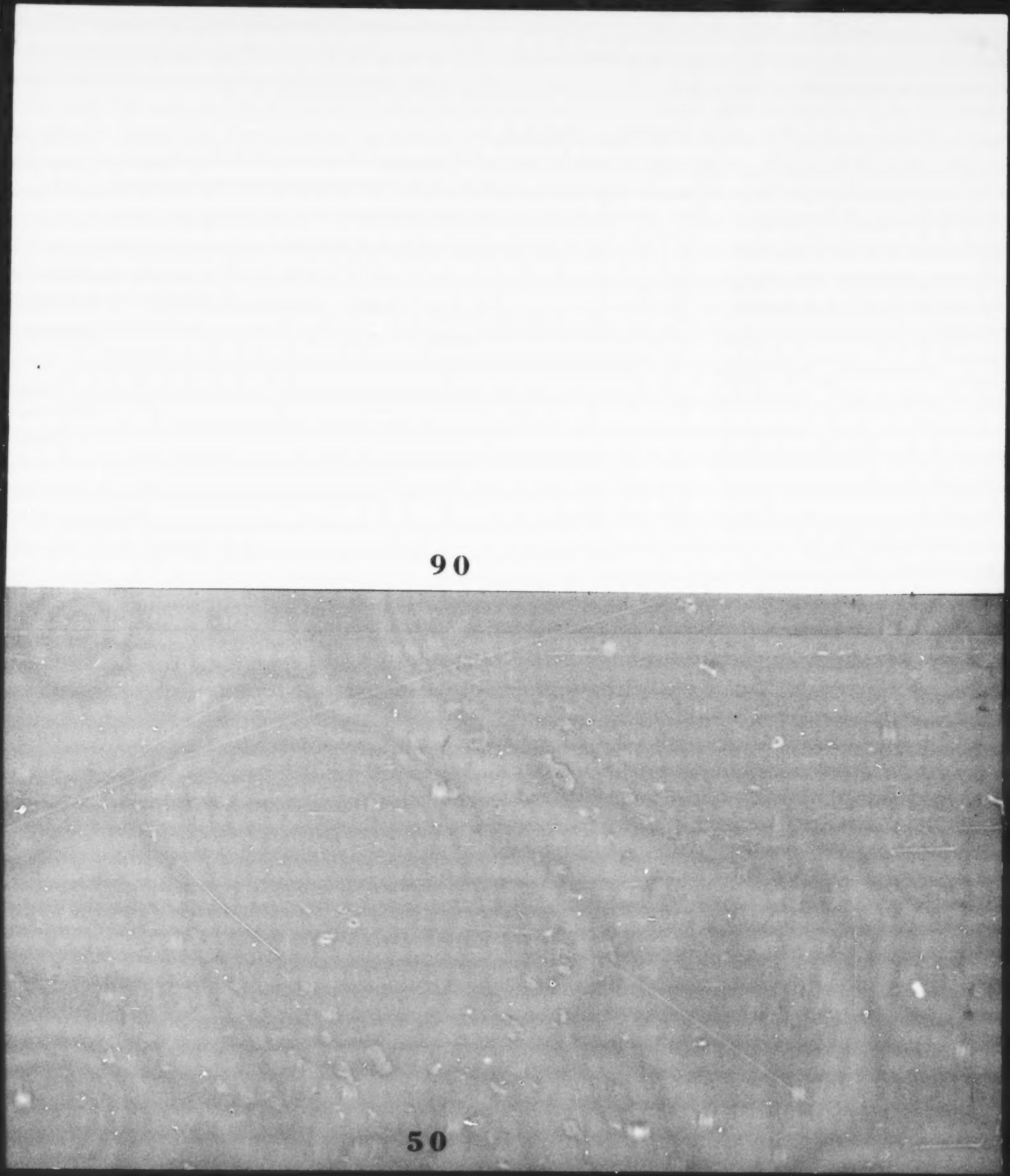
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